

Preface

The City of San Pablo's 2020 Needs Assessment report was concluded near the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic (Covid). Since the past year brought new challenges for a large percentage of the population and especially the youth population, the City of San Pablo decided to update some of the data to better reflect the changes experienced by the community. An appendix section has been added at end of the report, which includes updated data.¹

Introduction and Methodology

In 2020, the City of San Pablo conducted a needs assessment for young people and their families to identify gaps in service areas. The assessment focused on three service areas: mental and physical health for youth; education and post-secondary attainment for youth; and economic development for families with children and youth. This report includes relevant data and findings from family focus groups and youth surveys on needed services.

The family focus groups included eight adult participants, all of whom live in San Pablo and whose children attend San Pablo schools. The participants were facilitated into two groups, one Spanish-speaking and one English-speaking. They were also interviewed one-on-one, using the focus group questions.

The youth surveys were distributed via teachers and conducted online. In total, 281 youth completed the survey. Almost all (275) youth attended Helms Middle School, Richmond High, or Middle College High. Just over half, 53% (147) of the youth surveyed live in San Pablo and 42% live in Richmond. The remaining 5% of youth respondents live in one of the surrounding cities of Pinole, Hercules, or El Sobrante.

It is important to note that family focus groups were conducted two weeks prior to the shelter-in-place order issued by nine San Francisco Bay Area counties, including Contra Costa County, in an effort to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The youth surveys were distributed by email and text during the shelter-in-place order. The survey included a specific question regarding the particular needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The youth survey has come at unique time when San Pablo and communities around the Bay Area are addressing inequities highlighted by the pandemic.

¹ Please note that some of the data in the appendix section was incomplete or not available due to still being collected.